

III. Amendments to the Drawings

Please replace sheet 2 of the original drawings with the attached replacement sheet 2 including Figures 3 and 4.

IV. Remarks

Claims 1, 2 and 14-16 stand rejected and claims 3-13 are objected to. Claims 1 and 2 are being cancelled. Claims 3, 10, and 14-16 are being amended. Accordingly, after entering this amendment, claims 3-16 remain pending.

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

The undersigned acknowledges the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 3-13 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 3 is being re-presented in independent form including the limitation of the base claim (claim 1) and the intervening claim (claim 2). Specifically, claim 3 requires a pre-filter that is inserted into and removed from a tray by sliding the pre-filter in and out of the tray, in addition to the limitation of original claims 1 and 2.

Further, claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled, and the dependencies of claims 10 and 14-16 have been amended accordingly to depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 3.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 3-16 are allowable and such action is requested.

*Drawing Objections*

The drawings have been objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(4) because the reference character "56" has been used to designate both the manifold and the arrow depicting the pre-filter sliding in and out of the intake housing in Figure 4.

In response, Figure 4 has been amended to replace the reference character "56" that designates the arrow with the correct reference character "57" to depict the pre-filter sliding in and out of the intake housing.

Accordingly, it is believed that these objections are now moot and should be withdrawn.

*Specification*

The specification has been amended to replace the reference character "56" in paragraph [0024] for the arrow with the correct reference character "57".

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)*

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,015,452 to Nepsund et al. (Nepsund). Claims 1, 2 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,265,647 to Donachiue (Donachiue).

As discussed above, claim 3 has been re-written in allowable form including the limitations of claims 1 and 2, and claims 1 and 2 have been

cancelled. Further, claims 14 and 16 have been amended to depend from claim 3.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and allowance of claims 14 and 16 are respectfully requested.

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)*

Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Donachiue. Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nepsund or Donachiue in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,070,519 to Lefkowitz et al. (Lefkowitz).

As discussed above, claim 3 has been re-written in allowable form, and claims 15 and 16 have been amended to depend from claim 3.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and allowance of claims 14 and 16 are respectfully requested.

*Conclusion*

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims (claims 3-16) are patentably distinguishable

over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted by,

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